

July 11

Psalm 1:1

“Blessed”



**Blessed is the man that
walketh not in the counsel
of the ungodly, nor standeth
in the way of sinners, nor
sitteth in the seat of
the scornful.**

At one time I took this
passage to be a promise
or guarantee from God.
I thought that all godly
people, those who
willingly avoided
practicing behaviors

of the ungodly, would have all their pursuits blessed and made prosperous. The harsh realities of life in general, however, has caused me to dig more deeply.

I now better understand that, as with so many biblical passages, this

one is also not a pledge
from God. It is a psalm
(song) and/or poetry
from a human. It is not
a “word from the Lord”.

It is not “thus saith
the Lord” and should,
therefore, not be
read to mean if
you meet certain
conditions, you will
absolutely and always
receive pleasantness.

Even without one's
personal experiences,
the Bible shows
countless examples
of goodness
being punished and
evil being rewarded.
The biblical warning
to, "...take heed
how you hear..." has
come to mean more
and more to me
over time.

If one misapplies
scriptural passages,
one is likely
to be most surely
disappointed.

It is still, however,
excellent instruction
to not **WALK** in the
counsel of the ungodly—
to not accept and apply
advice of those who
do not hold God

as authority.
It is still wise to
not **STAND** in
the way of sinners—
to not behave as those
who embrace and
practice anti-God ways.
It is also still prudent
to not **SIT** in the seat
of the scornful—to not
be like those who are
full of disrespect
and contempt.

Further, enjoying
study of Scripture
and meditating on
it is most profitable.

However, to take
Bible verses to mean
everything will always
be wonderful and
favorable for you if
you follow certain
guidelines is completely
incorrect. Simply put,

it just doesn't work
that way and God never
promised that it would.

Just because someone
is *inspired* to write
something and it is
included as part of
Bible versions does not
mean those writings
are God's words, or
that it is an assurance
from God to you

personally, or that
each word has been
given a stamp of
approval by God.

Those who call any
Bible version “God's
Word” and actually
believe every word
within its pages is
God speaking or are
God-ordained will
likely reject this.

Nonetheless, even
a cursory study of
the history of Bible
versions will show
there is no such thing
as “THE Bible”.

As such, Believers
should really be in
tune with the
Holy Spirit when
interpreting
what we have as

Scripture.

In that walk, in that
stand, and in that
way, one is blessed.